

Date: Sun, 4 Sep 94 03:03:40 PDT  
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>  
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu  
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu  
Precedence: Bulk  
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #990  
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest                      Sun, 4 Sep 94                      Volume 94 : Issue 990

Today's Topics:

Can Micors/GEs be used for 220 Mhz ??  
Houston VE Exams  
Icom 737. How good?  
I could use a Beverage  
Info sought: FF Systems, Rolla, MO  
Looking for Morse code trainer seen Dayton  
Maritime CW Usage Snippet of History  
More Power vs. Better Antenna  
pizza reflectors? or bunk?  
Questions: Digital Scanning, Cellphones, Transmissions  
Received my License  
SANTEC aka KDK PL QUESTION  
TM-241 Flakey Display  
US licences for UK amateurs??  
VE Sessions in SF Bay Area?  
WEFAX  
What is an ELMER?????  
WWW/Mosaic pages for any radio material?

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>  
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>  
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available  
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text  
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official  
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

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Date: 2 Sep 1994 15:24:54 GMT  
From: agate!barrnet.net!syntex.com!merlot.syntex.com!bassett@ames.arpa  
Subject: Can Micors/GEs be used for 220 Mhz ??  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

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There are a number of us that have modified VHF Hi-band MICORs for use on 220. One of the repeaters I take care of is a modified MICOR. Very stable system. Required only a 220 power amp after modifications were complete. For all intents and purposes, the MICOR power amp can't be modified.

If you are interested, drop me a note and I'll try to dig out the modification details.

Regards,

-----  
Greg Bassett  
Syntex Corporation  
(415) 855-5825  
-----  
bassett@merlot.syntex.com  
KJ6EP@N6QMY.#NOCAL.CA.USA.NA  
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Date: 3 Sep 1994 13:03:36 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!udel!  
news.sprintlink.net!dolphin.phoenix.net!phoenix.phoenix.net!  
biekert@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Houston VE Exams  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

The Clear Lake ARC will hold its monthly ARRL VE exams this Saturday  
Sept 10th. Checkin is 9am and all tests start at 9:30am.

When: Sat Sept 10, 9am checkin  
Where: Clear Lake (SE Houston) Presbyterian Church 1511 El Dorado, enter  
the West door of the old church and follow the signs  
What: Bring Original AND copy of most current license (if any)  
Copy AND original of any valid CSCEs from previous testing  
Two forms of ID, one photo  
Current test fee \$5.75

We have 610 forms and smiling faces to help you fill them out.

For more information call Jim KB5AWM at 486-2032 or email me.

73 de Bob KA5GLX Vice President of CLARC

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Robert E. Biekert KA5GLX Houston, Texas  
Email: bieker@phoenix.phoenix.net

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Date: Fri, 2 Sep 94 23:35:36 -0500  
From: news.delphi.com!usenet@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: Icom 737. How good?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Am thinking of buying an Icom 737 as second  
hf rig. Any one have any experience with  
the rig? Would you recommend it?  
Thanks and 73. Steve.

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Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 22:07:08 +0000  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!newshub.nosc.mil!crash!news.sprintlink.net!demon!  
arkas.demon.co.uk!Michael@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: I could use a Beverage  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <94083102094600040@dxradio.demon.co.uk>  
mark@dxradio.demon.co.uk "Mark Hattam" writes:

>  
> In article <33pn2p\$s97@rigel.infinet.com>, W. E. Van Horne writes:  
>  
> > For transmitting, you want the maximum signal strength. For receiving,  
> > you want the maximum SIGNAL TO NOISE ratio. At high frequencies <30 Mhz  
> > modern receivers provide noise figures well below the level of natural  
> > QRN, so you can always amplify received signals as much as necessary to  
> > provide audible signals, no matter how weak they are, if the signal to  
> > noise ratio is adequate. Beverage antennas deliver low signal strength,  
>  
> > but even lower noise, so are superior for receiving.  
> >  
> > 73, Van - W8UOF  
>  
> You cannot always amplify received signals as much as necessary to improve  
> audible signals.  
>  
> Often on our AM band dxpeditions using Beverages, we are limited by  
> atmospheric noise, the level of which is dependent on the K index at that  
> time. Some mornings the noise level is high, and signals get drowned out,  
> other days the noise is almost non-existent, and even very low signal  
> strengths make it through.  
[snip]

(Are you heading off up north, soon? :) )

Just goes to show that if the SNR at the antenna terminals is bad, then no amount of receiver amplification will improve it. Real-world equipment \*always\* degrades the SNR - the measure by which it is degraded depends upon the input noise level versus the equipment's internal noise level.

Before someone says ... "what about my DSP box" ... using DSP just means that the threshold SNR required at the detector input in order to recover the intelligence on the signal (to a pre-determined quality) is lower than what it would be without using DSP. For example, dsp kit has existed for years on multichannel fdm/fm circuits - it's called a \*threshold\* extender.

73's

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Mike Dower

G0VEY

'Quoth the raven, "Never more".' ... Poe

VK2ENG

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Date: 3 Sep 1994 03:15:44 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!cat.cis.Brown.EDU!pstc3.pstc.brown.edu!  
md@network.ucsd.edu

Subject: Info sought: FF Systems, Rolla, MO

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm looking for information regarding a company called FF Systems in Rolla, MO. They sell a repeater controller, model FF-800, which seems to have alot of nice features and will allow me to easily link my 220, 440, and 1.2ghz machines.

The controller is, however, almost \$1k. My concern is that I've never seen this company advertise anywhere, nor have I seen their product reviewed. Over the years I've been burned more than once by fly-by-nite ham companies which appear to have a good product, but once you actually purchase its junk and support disappears. \$1k is alot of money to take a chance with.

So, I'm curious if anyone out there has had experience with this company, product, or has seen references to them/it in any publications. If you have, please e-mail me at "md@pstc.brown.edu" and let me know.

MD

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-- The best way for Bill Clinton to keep his legal  
-- fees down is to keep his pants zipped up.

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-----  
Date: 3 Sep 1994 04:46:13 GMT  
From: mozo.cc.purdue.edu!silver.ecn.purdue.edu!gerde@purdue.edu  
Subject: Looking for Morse code trainer seen Dayton  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

David Spoelstra <davids@truevision.com> writes:

>At Dayton this year I saw a company that had a very small morse code  
>trainer. This unit was a small box with two push button switches and an  
>earphone. When you turned the unit on, pushing the buttons would change  
>the speed of the random code it sent. I picked up literature, but now I  
>can't find it. Does anyone remember seeing this unit? Do you know who  
>was selling it?

>Thanks!  
>-David N9PGH

This sounds like the new trainer from MFJ

It sells for \$79.95, I have seen it and it is nice!

73... N9NWO

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Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 18:33:53 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!sdd.hp.com!saimiri.primite.wisc.edu!news.larc.nasa.gov!  
larc.nasa.gov!usenet.ins.cwru.edu!news.csuohio.edu!vmcms.csuohio.edu!  
R0264@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Maritime CW Usage Snippet of History  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <3458vu\$r3j@taco.cc.ncsu.edu>  
rdkeys@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu (R. D. Keys) writes:

>  
>  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>A Snippet of Commercial CW Operations History from August, 1994.  
>\*\*\*\*\*  
>  
>For all those who don't seem to think that commercial maritime CW  
>radio operations are significant, or that CW has any sort of real

>use in the real world, anymore, consider the following.....  
>  
>A friend send a swl log of stations monitored running cw over the period  
>of AUGUST, 1994.  
>  
>There were 406 entries logged.  
>  
>This is one person's logging of stations, and is probably not a highly  
>statistical sound sample of the real world.... BUT, because it was  
>taken over a relatively long period of time, it is probably better  
>than anything else available as a simple indicator of CW usage.  
>Any statisticians lurking on the net, please reply.  
>  
>The frequencies monitored were essentially all the commercial MF and  
>HF maritime CW frequencies. Stations were heard from around the world.  
>  
>There were 6 US Coast Stations logged.   KFS  
>   KPH  
>   WCC  
>   WLO  
>   WNC  
>   WSC  
>  
>These stations were logged 77 times.  
>  
>Out of the 406 entries, these stations and their traffic comprised  
>approximately 19 percent of the total traffic heard from the swl's  
>location.  
>  
>There were a number of foreign commercial stations/ships logged.  
>  
>There were certain call prefixes that tended to be most prevalent.  
>The highest frequency of calls was the U series (70 entries).  
>Next were the 3 series (48 entries) and S series (45).  
>Next were the P (28 entries), 9 (23), and Y (22) series.  
>Next were the C (18 entries), D (18), and J (15) series.  
>  
>If I am reading this correctly, that would tend to indicate that  
>even now, these US coast stations handle approximately 20 percent  
>of the world's CW traffic.  
>  
>It would appear that there is still significant third world CW traffic  
>being passed through US stations.  
>  
>It would appear that the third world countries are making great use,  
>still, of commercial maritime CW.  
>>>>> some deleted for savings of BW <<<<

I get WLO all the time on 6.4160. They broadcast WX for the Atlantic and Gulf areas, and lists of ships for which they have traffic. Once in a while I hear one of the ships. I thought WLO sounded kind of fast, so hooked up my Kantronics TNC in CW mode, and it gave speed readings of 30 to 36 WPM. They use dididahdah in a way that is like hams use BT, or maybe for CR-LF for automatic receiving machines. They are located in Miami. Their code sounds like it sent by machine, but the variation in speed from 30 to 36 WPM is kind of curious, on that assumption. The ships I heard definitely were sending by hand, and some with (IMHO) very bad fists.

Yes, there is still quite a bit of maritime CW out there. Also, the maritime rules require ships of over 1200 tons to have CW capabilities and to monitor the distress frequency of 500 KHz, as of my latest commercial license question pool. Phil Emerson, AA8JO

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Date: 2 Sep 1994 20:40:08 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!sdd.hp.com!math.ohio-state.edu!howland.reston.ans.net!gatech!newsxfer.itd.umich.edu!nntp.cs.ubc.ca!unixg.ubc.ca!prodigy.bc.ca!espresso.prodigy.bc.ca!pantaki@network.UCSD  
Subject: More Power vs. Better Antenna  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm trying to make the most of a battery pack on my HT and I find that I need to transmit at high power (5 watts) to hit some repeaters I'm interested in. Someone once mentioned to me that it would be better to use a better antenna (telescopic perhaps) instead of higher power. Would someone perhaps be able to explain the relationship between the antenna gain and output power?

Many Thanks,

Paul VE7ZPA

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Paul Antaki  
Prodigy Technologies Corporation                      Phone: (604) 687-4636  
1100-1190 Hornby Street                              Fax: (604) 687-1671  
Vancouver, B.C.                                      e-mail: pantaki@prodigy.bc.ca  
V6Z 2K5

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Date: 2 Sep 94 13:07:07 EDT  
From: netnews.upenn.edu!dsinc!newsfeed.pitt.edu!gatech!concert!ecsgate!lrc!white\_da@RUTGERS.EDU  
Subject: pizza reflectors? or bunk?

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This might seem a bit strange, but last night I put one of those microwave pizzas in and nuked it for the appropriate time. Upon removal from the microwave I noticed that the crust was a little browner than it was before. The box said that the pizza was packed on a special browning tray that to me looked like a piece of aluminized cardboard, or heavy paper stock.

So my question is what is this little tray made out of and just what does it do? Does it just reflect the microwaves, in which case it really does nothing because the bottom of the oven is going to do that or does it focus the radiation. Or does it just get really hot and brown the crust that way? I almost could not get to sleep last night thinking of this. Some one please help

Respond here or E-mail me at  
White\_da@mike.lrc.edu

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Date: 3 Sep 1994 13:08:57 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!g9153402@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Questions: Digital Scanning, Cellphones, Transmissions  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> Cell phones can be had for \$ 29.95 US, but they require a subscription to  
> one of the cellular carriers. The more features you add the more \$\$\$ you  
> add :-)

> Patrick  
> pouelle@uoft02.utoledo.edu

Last week, Airtouch Cellular in Los Angeles sold Motorola reconditioned phones (with warranty) which you could get for \$25 WITHOUT ACTIVATION! (or nothing with free activation). Many people rushed out to buy..

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Date: 2 Sep 1994 14:40:33 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!pacbell.com!well!barrnet.net!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!news.acns.nwu.edu!kgkmac.repoc.nwu.edu!user@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: Received my License  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

My license finally came yesterday, 10 weeks and 6 days. My wife, friend and father-in-laws all came in together, 8 weeks and 3 days, with consecutive numbers. We all took our tests together.



Took test June 17th, everyone (except me) had theirs processed July 22nd (5 weeks) and received it Aug 15th (3 + weeks either waiting to be mailed or in the postal system). Mine was processed Aug 25th and received Sep 1st.

I suppose the others were part of the FCC temp help taking applications from the wrong stack and the FCC must have caught their mistake when they came to mine. Oddly, last week I heard one person with an N9Z-- number. Either I misunderstood the number or some weird things are happening at the FCC office.

Oh well, it's finally here.

Regards

Ken  
N9YIR

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Kenneth Kalan      PP ASEL                      === _ / |
Northwestern University | ___/[__ ] \___/___ |
Prosthetics Research Laboratory | \__ -|___|_____===/
Rehabilitation Engineering Program |   \ /
kgk@nwu.edu          N9YIR                o    0
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Date: 2 Sep 1994 18:05:45 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!sdd.hp.com!hp-pcd!hp-cv!reuter.cse.ogi.edu!psgrain!  
charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!nic-nac.CSU.net!usc!howland.reston.ans.net!swrinde!  
news.uh.edu!news.sccsi.com!nuchat!acs@@.  
Subject: SANTEC aka KDK PL QUESTION  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I have a Santec fm-240 2 meter transceiver. It looks a lot like the KDK models. My problem is not knowing how to turn the PL on. I have the freq set to 103.5 Hz but can't make it access a local repeater. Does anyone have a clue as to how to make this thing work? I don't have the manual for it.

Thanks and 73

--  
A. C. Spraggins  
South Coast Computing Services, Inc.  
P. O. Box 270355  
Houston, TX 77277-0355  
acs@nuchat.sccsi.com  
w5ezm@sugarland.ampr.org  
(713) 917-5000  
(713) 917-5005 fax

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Date: Sat, 3 Sep 94 14:43:07 -0500  
From: news.delphi.com!usenet@uunet.uu.net  
Subject: TM-241 Flakey Display  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Has any one solved the problem with a Kenwood TM-241, 2 meter rig, with a light up on my display making it impossible to read. The radio has been back to keenwood once and had the display board replaced, but now - six months later it's back to it's old tricks -

I'd like to hear from anyone whose had this problem and has found a fix for it. Kenwood techs are at a loss to explain this.

TNX/Bob/WA4ZID

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Date: 2 Sep 1994 17:58:04 GMT  
From: news.cerf.net!nntp-server.caltech.edu!netline-fddi.jpl.nasa.gov!  
elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!EU.net!uknet!inmos-root!fulcrum!  
warwick!unicorn.nott.ac.uk!@@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: US licences for UK amateurs??  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

HI there,

I am moving to the US early next year and would like to carry on with amateur radio when I move over. I currently have a class B licence over here, and I was wondering if anyone knew what, if any, arrangements exist between the US and the UK to allow amateurs from the one country to operate in the other.

i.e. would I have to sit US exams in order to gain a US licence, or would I be eligible for a US version of my UK licence?

If anyone knows anything about this and can let me know i would be very grateful.

Thanks!

Simon (G1SNT)

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bd27015@bingsuns.cc.binghamton.edu

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Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 16:19:58 GMT  
From: news.cerf.net!gopher.sdsc.edu!news.tc.cornell.edu!news.cac.psu.edu!  
howland.reston.ans.net!math.ohio-state.edu!sdd.hp.com!hpscit.sc.hp.com!  
cupnews0.cup.hp.com!news1.@@ihnp4.ucsd.edu  
Subject: What is an ELMER?????  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Is it anything like a person who helps another learn the finer points of  
amateur radio.(Elmer just sounds so outdated, kinda like tubes in mobile  
radios)

Jon, N7LNR

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Date: 3 Sep 1994 04:33:32 GMT  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!agate!darkstar.UCSC.EDU!news.hal.COM!olivea!  
charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!csusac!csus.edu!netcom.com!ix.netcom.com!  
netnews@network.ucsd.edu  
Subject: WWW/Mosaic pages for any radio material?  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Try the home page of the Naval Postgraduate School ARC:

<http://www.nps.navy.mil/npsarc/k6ly.html>

It looks well thought out. They seem to be an active group. And  
they have links to other Amateur Radio pages on the Web.

Allen KB6BR

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OLX 2.0 - Shortwave radio - tune in, turn on, fade out!

-----  
Date: Fri, 2 Sep 1994 22:11:45 +0000  
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!newshub.nosc.mil!crash!news.sprintlink.net!demon!  
arkas.demon.co.uk!Michael@network.ucsd.edu  
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <Cv3Jo1.KKp@fore.com>, <1994Aug26.171037.1344@tellab5.tellabs.com>,  
<33t3fu\$45@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu>Mic  
Reply-To : Michael@arkas.demon.co.uk

Subject : Re: You have been a ham too long when you ...

In article <33t3fu\$45@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu>  
sjking@freenet3.scri.fsu.edu "Steven J. King" writes:

> John Albert (jwa@tellabs.com) wrote:  
> > In article <Cv3Jo1.KKp@fore.com> ed@fore.com (Ed Bathgate) writes:  
> > >drive past somebody you know, instead of tooting beep - beep on the car  
horn,> > >you beep -.-.-.-  
> > >  
> > >  
> > How about when you call your favorite Ham Radio Store and say  
> > "This Joe WA9XXX" with out giving your last name!  
>  
> Or in my case, when finishing a telephone conversation with another  
> ham, I almost ended the call by giving my callsign. <sheesh>

A lady called Kay Cottee sailed around the world single-handed, and she got  
very accustomed to talking to people only via the radio. Just before the end  
of her voyage the reporters sailed out to meet her off Sydney - she answered  
their first question, face-to-face across a few yards of water, and finished  
with "over".

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Mike Dower  
G0VEY  
VK2ENG

'Quoth the raven, "Never more".' ... Poe

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End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #990  
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